

Identification	Subject (code, title, credits)	PSIR: 643. History of the United Nations - 3KU /6ECTS credits
	Department	Political Science and Philosophy
	Program	Graduate
	Term	Spring, 2024
	Instructor	Rahil Dadashli
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	Classroom/hours	11 Mehseti str. (Neftchilar campus), On WED, 304 Old. 18:40 PM.
	Office hours	By appointment
Prerequisites	Consent of instructor	
Language	English	
Compulsory/Elective	Required	
Required textbooks and course materials	<p><i>Core textbooks:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations, Thomas G. Weiss and Sam Davis, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2018.</i> 2. <i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. In Oxford University Press eBooks.</i> https://doi.org/10.1093/actrade/9780190222703.001.0001 <p><i>Further materials will be provided by the instructor.</i></p>	
Course outline	<p>This graduate-level course is carefully crafted to offer a comprehensive examination of the key elements that make up the history of United Nations organizations. Since its establishment, the United Nations (UN), one of the key institutions of global governance, and its many bodies have shaped diplomacy, international relations, conflict resolution, and the promotion of human rights. This course gives students a thorough understanding of the intricate dynamics at work within this multifaceted global institution by delving into the historical evolution, significant turning points, difficulties, achievements, and transformations of the United Nations and its affiliated agencies.</p>	
Course objectives	<p>From the UN's founding to the present, this course offers a thorough examination of its history, development, and achievements. Students will acquire a thorough grasp of the UN's function in international relations, peacekeeping, human rights, development, and global governance through a historical analysis of significant events, organizations, and projects. We'll focus on the UN's answers to current issues, historical background, and critical analysis.</p>	
Learning outcomes	<p>Students ought to be capable of the following by the end of this course:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show that you have a thorough awareness of the UN's founding and history. • Examine the composition, duties, and responsibilities of important UN organizations. • Analyze the UN's performance and constraints in tackling international issues like sustainable development, human rights, and peacekeeping. • Evaluate the UN Charter's impact on international relations and governance critically. • Examine the UN's involvement in humanitarian aid and conflict resolution using theoretical frameworks and case studies. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in knowledgeable conversations and debates regarding current affairs and the disputes surrounding the 		
Teaching methods	Lecture		X
	Group discussion		X
	Experiential exercise		
	Simulation		X
	Case analysis		X
	Course paper		
	Presentations about research findings		X
Evaluation	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	To be determined by the Dean's Office	30
	Case studies and Presentations		15
	Attendance	During the semester	5
	Essay		
	Group Discussion	During the semester	10
	Final Exam	To be determined by the Dean's Office	40
	Others		
	Total		100
Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for class <p>The structure of this course makes your individual study and preparation outside the class extremely important. The lecture material will focus on the major points introduced in the text. Reading the assigned chapters and having some familiarity with them before class will greatly assist your understanding of the lecture. After the lecture, you should study your notes and work relevant problems from the end of the chapter and sample exam questions. After each lesson for the next class all students are required to be well-prepared and answer the questions. The core reading materials are emphasized in <i>bold italic</i> scripts in respective places in the tentative schedule. The rest of the given materials are supplementary and are highly advised to read. If a student shows irresponsible manner and do not get prepared for the class for more than 2 successive lessons appropriate marks will be deduced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Withdrawal (pass/fail) <p>This course strictly follows grading policy of the Graduate School of Science, Art, and Technology. Thus, a student is normally expected to achieve a mark of at least 65% to pass. In case of failure, he/she will be required to repeat the course the following term or year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case study and Presentations <p>Students will be given relevant topics related to the course and tasked with conducting mini research to create a presentation. Additionally, if a student proposes an exceptional topic, they may be assigned their preferred subject. Presentations are required to be in</p>		

Power Point (.ppt or similar formats). Each student will have their own deadline, and failure to meet this deadline will result in a score of "0" for this section. The evaluation criteria are outlined below:

Criteria	Share of points
Content	0-3
Organization and Structure	0-3
Clarity and Visuals	0-3
Overall Impact and Creativity	0-3
Use of Visual Aids (if applicable)	0-3
Total	0-15

Guideline for the presentation preparation:

1. Title Slide
2. Introduction (Briefly introduce yourself and your topic. State the purpose or main goal of the presentation. Provide an overview of what the audience can expect.
3. Agenda or Outline (Outline the main sections or topics you will cover in the presentation)
4. Main Content (Should be organized in logical way, divide your presentation into several sections or topics)
5. Conclusion (Summarize the main points of your presentation)
6. References and Sources (Include a slide with citations or sources if you've used external material)

- Cheating/plagiarism

Cheating or other plagiarism during the Quizzes, Mid-term and Final Examinations will lead to paper cancellation. In this case, the student will automatically get zero (0), without any considerations.

- Group discussion

Students will be assessed based on their engagement in class discussions covering diverse topics. The instructor will take notes after each discussion and evaluate students' performance before the final exam. Both academic knowledge and professional behavior in group discussions will be considered in the assessment.

- Exams

To assess students' preparedness in the course, both mid-term and final exams will be administered, with the specific dates determined by the dean's office. Typically, mid-term exams will commence around the midpoint of the course, while the final exam will be scheduled at the conclusion of the course. The point allocation is as below:

Question	<i>Mid-term</i>	<i>Final</i>
1 st Question	8 points	10 points
2 nd Question	8 points	10 points
3 rd Question	8 points	10 points
10 Multiple Choice Questions	6 points	10 points

On the exam paper, students will encounter six potential questions, but they are only required to select and respond to three of them. Each chosen question in the mid-term exam holds a weight of 8 points, and in the final exam, it carries a value of 10 points. The questions are open-ended, and the evaluation will consider the development of English language skills, comprehension of the question, and the organization of the answers, aiming to enhance these aspects during the assessment process. Furthermore, students will encounter 10 closed-ended questions with multiple-choice options (A, B, C, D, E). They are required to choose a single answer and circle it on the exam paper. It's important to note that both multiple-choice and multiple corrections will not be considered as correct answers.

- Professional behavior guidelines

The students shall behave in a way to create a favorable academic and professional environment during the class hours. Unauthorized discussions and unethical behavior are strictly prohibited.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Date/Day (tentative)	Topics	Notes
1	14.02.2024	Introduction to the Course	Information about the course. What is the UN?
2	21.02.2024	We the Peoples: The Promise of the United Nations	<i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. Introduction.Pp.1-7</i>
3	28.02.2024	From the League of Nations to United Nations, San Francisco Conference and UN Charter	<i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter 1. Pp.8-25</i> <i>United Nations Charter (full text) United Nations.</i> https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/full-text
5	06.03.2024	The Structure of the United Nations	<i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter II.Pp.22-49</i> <i>Thorvaldssdottir, S., Patz, R., & Eckhard,</i>

			<p><i>S. (2021). International bureaucracy and the United Nations system: introduction. International Review of Administrative Sciences, 87(4), 695–700.</i> https://doi.org/10.1177/00208523211038730</p>
6	13.03.2024	Challenges to the UN: the UN in action	<p><i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter III. Pp.50-70</i></p> <p>Stairs, D. (1970). The United Nations and the politics of the Korean War. <i>International Journal</i>, 25(2), 302. https://doi.org/10.2307/40200916</p>
7	20.03.2024	Nowruz Holiday	<i>No class</i>
8	27.03.2024	The United Nations' Peacebuilding and Peacekeeping activities	<p><i>Gowan, R. (2018). Peace Operations. The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations, 419–445.</i> https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.013.23</p> <p><i>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter IV. Pp.71-90</i></p> <p>Osland, K. M., & Peter, M. (2021). UN peace operations in a multipolar order: Building peace through the rule of law and bottom-up approaches. <i>Contemporary Security Policy</i>, 42(2), 197–210. https://doi.org/10.1080/13523260.2021.1998166</p> <p>Gledhill, J., Caplan, R., & Meiske, M. (2021). Developing peace: the evolution of development goals and activities in United Nations peacekeeping. <i>Oxford Development Studies</i>, 49(3), 201–229. https://doi.org/10.1080/13600818.2021.1924126</p> <p>De Brabandere, E. (2015). UN Post-Conflict peacebuilding Activities – An economic Reconstruction perspective. <i>Social Science Research Network</i>. https://ssrn.com/abstract=2658091</p>
9		Midterm Exam Week	<i>to be determined by the Dean's Office</i>

10	10.04.2024	Ramadan Holiday	<i>No class</i>
11	17.04.2024	The UN activities after the WW2 in economic and reconstruction sphere	<p>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). <i>The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter V. Pp.91-110</i></p> <p>Chapter II: Post-war reconstruction and development in the Golden Age of Capitalism. WESS 2017_ch2.pdf (un.org)</p>
11	24.04.2024	Bretton Woods Institutions	<p>Woods, N. (2018). <i>Bretton Woods Institutions. The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations</i>, 282–298.</p> <p>https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.013.14</p>
12	01.05.2024	Human Rights issue on the agenda of the UN	<p>Samarsinghe, N. (2018). <i>Human Rights. The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations (2 Ed.)</i>, 542–566.</p> <p>https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.013.30</p> <p>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). <i>The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter VI. Pp.111-134</i></p> <p>United Nations. (n.d.-b). <i>Universal Declaration of Human Rights United Nations</i>. https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights</p>
13	08.05.2024	Future of the UN	<p>Acharya, A. (2018). <i>Multilateralism and the Changing World Order. The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations (2 Ed.)</i>, 780–796.</p> <p>https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.013.43</p> <p>Hanhimäki, J. M. (2015). <i>The United Nations: A very short introduction. Chapter VII. Pp.135-</i></p> <p>Runjić, L. (2017). Reform of the United Nations Security Council: The Emperor has no clothes. <i>Revista De Direito Internacional</i>, 14(2).</p> <p>https://doi.org/10.5102/rdi/bjil.v14i2.4587</p>

14	15.05.2024	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Fukuda-Parr, S. (2018). Sustainable Development Goals. <i>The Oxford Handbook on the United Nations</i> , 763–778. https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780198803164.013.42
15	22.05.2024	Students' Presentations	Students will present their projects

This syllabus is a guide for the course and any modifications to it will be announced in advance.